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Supplement

Well-known South Viet Nam military commentator Cuu Long on "South Viet Nam politico-military situation in 1968"

One Year of General Offensives and Simultaneous Uprisings



PLAF fighters in Hue City

South Viet Nam

FROM TET OFFENSIVES

TO PARIS CONFERENCE

N November 1967, Johnson organized Westmoreland's trium-phant visit to Washington and a joint session of Congress to hear the C-in-C of U.S. armed forces in Viet Nam testiony had already forces in Viel Nam testify that victory had already appeared on the horizon, that "there was a light at the end of the tunnel" and that it was even possible to bring home a first batch of GIs by the end of 1968.

the end of 1908.

Less than three months later, the powerful general offenities and simultaneous uprisings broke out in South Wiel Nom, earlying the wareen into cities said to be "impregenated" by the aggressors, and "many the wareen had a senter of having been somether had a senter of the winder (Nowaneek, Feb. 20, 1968.)

The feats accomplished by the South Virlnamers people and their armed lorote to the early days of last Lunar Year made a geest stre in world opinion. Wall Street Journal, an orean of U.S. big monopoly, in its Jan. 31. 1068 issue termed them as "the most aggressive, most lawfung and best co-ordinated critic war."

Everyone through the children war."

Everyone knows the calastrophic impact of this first wave of offensives and uprisings upon the U.S. - puppets: Militarily, let us mention ne third of the Saigon nationary, tet us mantion one-third of the Saigon army wiped out or disharded, one-fifth of U.S. manpower decimated or put out of action, one-third of the enemy's aircraft and armoured webicles and an important part of its war material aestroyen. American propaganda did its best to conscal these considerable losses from the public but, as was revealed by many Western newspapers, U.S. Western newspapers, U.S. officers in Saigon in private admitted them in all candous.

The blow was particularly devastating for the aggressors and their flumbers on the political plane immensery all areas were overnight political plane: rusal areas were overnight freed from their yoke, shatter-their "WHAM" "inds] ing their "WHAM" (win hearts and ninds) programmes and pairing the may for the ignominous department, the interest of the inte ing their turn hearts

(Continued page 4)

- * SAIGON FRONT: 7 enemy companies destroyed or decimated, 17 planes and helicopters brought down, 68 military vehicles wrecked and 7 vessels sunk or damaged.
- * NEAR CAN THO : 2 attacks against an airfield within 10 days, 75 planes and helicopters destroyed and 200 U.S.- puppet troops killed or wounded.
- * IN THE WESTERN HIGHLANDS : nearly 800 adverse casualties in the first half of January.
- * HEAVY ENEMY LOSSES IN "ACCELERATED PACIFICATION" OPERATIONS: 2,000 men put out of action and more than 30 vessels sunk or damaged.

gogic promises of a beautiful professions to the world of U.S. good-will for peace. Nixon dangled before the eyes of the American people a life built on equality and liberty in which Whites and Blacks join bands to advance towards progress. He even declared that he would ear-mark sums saved from war spendings for the improvement of living standard in the U.S.

Regarding foreign policy, the new U.S. President under-took to bend all his energies and wisdom on the service of peace between nations.

In short, Nixon's speech was a heap of theories and vague promises on future things and nes not touch upon any of does not trace upon any or the big problems now con-fronting the U.S.; the failure and the statemate of the war of aggression in Vict Nam, the ebullient struggle of the Black people, the serious and prolonged financial stress, crimes and other social cvils, high living cost, etc... The enormous difficulties are like

Nixon's inaugural address, an avowal of an impasse PROCEDURE APPROVED

ominous clouds hanging over the U.S. and Nixon himsel, had to acknowledge that "We (the U.S) are caught in war". "torn by division" and "ragged in spirit". While the American people were expecting the new President to recommend remedies for all these ailments. Nixon gave

Nixon also chose to remain vague about the imperative demand of the American and other peoples in the world that an end be put to the war of aggression in Viet Nam. What is more, in proclaiming atrong as we need to be for as long as we need to be ", and that a "prolonged di-plomacy" was ahead, Nixon betrayed to some extent his unwillingness to seek an early colution to the Viet Nam

U.S. failure in Viet Nam and opposition of the world's people and of the Americans themselves to the U.S. policy themselves to the U.S. policy of war and aggression had forced Nixon, a well-known hawk, to soft pedal and talk of peace in his inaugural speech. But this was a kind of vague peace, a Pax Americana which his predecessor alternative of the peace of the temperature of the U.S. "reace camazines" has U.S. "peace campaigns" has taught the world's peoples to remain vigilant before Nixon's hazy professions of peace What they demand is genuine peace, a peace in indepen-dence and freedom. So long as genuine peace and inde-pendence are not achieved. progressive mankind is resolred to fight to a finish.

> Nhan Dan (The People) Jan. 23, 1969

Hanoi

Press Opinion

On Kissinger's article "Foreign Affairs"

ISSINGER'S article Characterized by patent obduracy: obduracy in ing up U.S. failure, covering up obsluracy in refusing to nego-tate and settle the South Vict Nam problem, obduracy in clinging to the colonialist scheme to maintain South Viet Nam as a new-type colony of the U.S.

Kissinger avoids dealing with U.S. basic failure, but the fact is that the U.S. has sustained alfround and heavy failure in its war of aggression Viet Nam. Contrary to m Vict Nam. Contrary to Kisainger's traism that "the goerith will win if he does not lose, the conventional army loses it if it does not vin", the U.S. has met with total bankruptey in its policy and plan to seize South Vict Name to record force. The Nam by armed force. The U.S. has failed completely in its "special war" and, in a measure, in its "limited Hundreds of thousands of Gls have been wiped out; the Saigon administration has weakened and is plagued by deep splits; the puppet army with its sagging morale has been disintegrating by big chunks. The general offensives and widespread uprisings of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people since early 1068 have dealt another crushing blow at the U.S. aggres-sors and their lackeys, driving them into serious strategic passivity. Far from attaining the goal of its war of destruc-tion against the DRVN, the U.S. has lost more than 3,000

modern aircraft and thousands

of pilots.

...The aggressive war in Vict Nam, cruel and barba-rous as it is, has stained the honour of the United States, isolated the U.S. Government and triggered a protest move-ment of unpredecedent ment of unpredecedented magnitude in the world and the United States. It has cost the U.S. nearly too billion dollars, thereby aggrafinancial difficulties and making it impossible to build the "Great Society" envisaged by President Johnson when he came to power 118 he came to power. U.S. failure in Viet Nam obviously is not the doing of an unsound strategy nor of unrealized concrete goals, as Kissipure overall bankruptcy of the U.S. war policy and plan — the biggest setback in the history of U.S. imperialist

hope to win victory by a change of strategy is sheer change of strategy is sheer illusion. In fact, the defensive strategy suggested by Kissinger is being carried out by the U.S. Following the disconfiture of Westmoreland's "search-and destroy" strategy, his successor Abrams has tried to "clearand-hold" in an attempt to reduce American troop casualties, regain the control of the population and defend the the population and defend the towns. But this new strategy has so far been unable to help the U.S. and puppet

troops ward off the stormy attacks by the PLAF. It is also being defeated.

Kissinger's military stra tegy is intended to prolong the war. But sure, it will do no good to the U.S. More than half a million American troops equipped with the best weapons were able neither to cope with the South Viet Nam armed forces and peo-ple nor to consolidate the puppet army and administra tion. Therefore, with a smal-ler army and a defensive strategy the U.S. will car-tainly take heavier losses, and the puppet administra-tion will inevitably collapse Since the "special war" and
"limited war" have both
come to a flop, the U.S.
scheme to use the puppet
army to prosecute its colonialist war can only meet with more bitter setbacks.

Kissinger himself must be aware of the contradiction and predicament of the United States when he talks of a negotiated settlement. But, his colonialist scheme being not given up, the line of negotiation advocated by Kissinger and the political solution suggested by him are also self-contradictory and stalemated. There is no loubt that the South Viet Engineering the South Vietnamese people, the organizer and leader of the South Vietnamese people, the organizer and leader of the South Vietnamese people, now his colonialist scheme being Vietnamese people struggling against the U.S. aggressors and their benchmen for independence and freedom, is competent to settle the South Viet Nam problem. Short of U.S. cognition of the front and of its sincere acceptance to talk with it the South Viet

problem cannot be

Nhan Dan (The People) Jan. 17, 1969

PARIS PARLEY

THE Paris conference on Viet Nam held its meeting on procedural matters in Paris on Ian. 18.

On their arrival, the delegation of the DRVN Government and that of the South Viet Nam NFL were enthusiastically greeted with cheers by hundreds of overseas Vietnamese and many Frenchmen and Frenchwomen who waved DRVN and NFL flags.

During the session, the representative of the Saigon Administration repeated the 'two-side" theme and the U.S. representative, naturally

On behalf of the NFL delegation, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh recalled the Front's statement of November 3, 1968, which expressed its gnodwill in accepting a quadripartite conference on Viet Nam. She also reaffirmed the 5 points of the NFL which showed the right path for a peaceful solution to the South Viet Nam issue.

Strongly condemning the 'two-side' theme produced by the U.S. and the Saigon Administration to negate and belittle the role of the NFI. the Front's envoy enid .

"The NFL is the authentic representative of the legitimate aspirations of the South Vietnamese people. The NFL delegation is ttending this conference as party independent from, and equal to, the other delegations, and is fully qualified to settle all questions related to South Viet Nam. The present Thieu-Ky-Huong adninistration in Saigon has

By opposing a coclition government and putting a 'constitutional' and 'riegal' face on the Saigon clique of lackeys, Kissinger cannot help the latter consolidate their position and avoid disintegration.

In short, Kissinger's article on "Viet Nam Negotiations" only sheds more light on the obstinate effort of certain circles in the United States to pro-long the military and politican confrontation in South t Nam, in an attempt to cling to this part of Viet Nam by armed force, turn it into a neo-colony of the U.S. and prolong the partition of Viet Nam. Behind flowery words and tortuous contentions, Kissinger actually does not want to seek an "bonorable to the war, and instead is trying to drag

been installed by the U.S. It is frantically crossing the people's aspirations for peace and independence, and is massacring our fellow-countrymen. Because of this, it strongly opposed by the South Vietnamese people of all strate who want it replaced. The presence of the Saigon administration at this conference does not imply its recognition by the NFL ".

The NFL spokesman said that her delegation deemed it necessary to hold fulldress debates by the four delegations at an early date of essential questions to find a correct political solution to the Viet Nam issue.

Ambassador Ha Van Lau, on behalf of the delegation of the DRVN Government. made clear in his speech that the many seeks long delay of the quadripartite conference was due to the U.S. Government's failure to act up to the agreements concluded with the representative of the DRVN Government, and to the obstacles deliberately set up by the Saigan Administration The DRVN representative stressed that at this conference, the DRVN delegation and the NFL delegation were two independent delegations, and that the aim of the conference was to find a political settlement on the basis of respect for the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights. namely independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity as recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements. He then put forwad a draft project of the procedure of the conference.

" If the United States and the Saigon administration really want a political solution to the Vict Nam problem," Mr. Ha Van Lau pointed out, "the United States must renounce its appressive design against South Viet Nam, and put an end to all infringements upon the sovereignty and threats to the security of the DRVN and the Saigon Administration must give up its bellicose policy that thwarts the South Viet Nam people's legitimate aspirations for independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity and the ultimate peaceful reunification of the ountry.

The session which was dragged out for five hours by the obduracy of the representives of the Saigon Administration and the U.S. finally passed the procedural points and agreed to hold the first plenary session in the follow-

THE NORTH-GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

A village's museum

THE RIFLE AND THE PLANE DEBRIS

T is safe to say that in N. village, Quang Bish province, the museum is microcosm of the whole The mass of steel lying in one corner is a U.S. 500-pound blockbuster. The militamen

have just unearthed it at the laboratory of the secondary it on display in the museum to remind the younger gene-ration of the enemy's crimes. ration of the enemy's crimes. For nearly 4 years, the U.S. aggressors have dropped 6,242 su'h bombs on the hamlets of village N. It is impossible to list all steelpellet bombs, rockets and shells released by U.S. planes and warships against the vil-lage. This cumbersome green propeller section is from a delayed action bomb which went smack into Mother Thui's house. And here is one of the latest words in U.S. technology: a sound detector with a very sophisticated nickname—"Tropical plant". The U.S. pirates use this new device to detect sounds produced by everything, from moving cars to steps of children going to school, for their air strikes. The piece of charred wood on that table is all that is left of table is all that is left of the house of Mrs. Con of Tay hamlet after being hit by a napalm bomb. Her 7-year old boy, Nhuan, was batbecued inside the house. Since the beginning of 1955, 1,333 tile-roofed houses of village N. have been burnt destroyed by U.S. village N. have been burnt down or destroyed by U.S. bombs. A number of them have been hit several times. have been hit several times. The blood-stained curtain and the broken leg of a bed are the vestiges of the operation room of the village clinic attacked in early 1963. Assustant #physician Phieu an i me lical practitioner Uu were killed in the raid. There is an exercise-book perforated by a steel-pellet. It belongs to

the clinic. One morning he brought chicken rice soup to the little patient. Half-way to the clinic, he was hit by an enemy bomb and his blood In the next room, a heap in the next room, a neap of scrap and twiated metals on an earthen platform repre-sents the 4 U.S. warplanes brought down by the village militia—an AD-6, an F.105, an F.4H and a QH.50-A which was the first unmanned helicopter downed over the North. There is also a pair of shoes from a U.S. pilot.

Tran Thi Sang, a girl pupil of the 6th form. There is also a cot, half burned and full of

holes, which was given to Mrs. Let during land reform. The woman and her 3 children

were napalmed to death. The bruken bowl belonging to old Hoai is also on display. One

ed during a U.S. bombing

raid, was under treatment at

his grand-children, wound-

On a rack, by the heap of plane debris, shoes plane debris, sinces and flying cars, is a simple rifle, one of the 7 that killed the QH. 50-A and joined in dowing the 3 others. The

museum officials have so well arranged the exhibits that wisitors can draw for themselves a big lesson of the present era, a new landmark in our nation's long history — that of "pit-ting the weak against the strong" and "making huma-nism prevail over cruelty".

The plane hunters are as simple as their rifles. We have met them off and on at their combat positions, at river crossings or by Bridge the building of their fortifi the building of their fortifi-cations. Ngo Ngoc Phu, depu-ty leader of the village militia, frankly said that when the U.S. made its first air attacks on North Viet Nam, his only thought was to counter them. As to how to do it, he then had no clear ideas in his mind. He clear ideas is his mind. He
tet off ploughing, lay flat on
his back down on the tiny
the rifle against his shoulder
and sighted the first enemy
planes coming in for a
bombing raid on Dong Hos
comrades brought down the
first air margiader, an F.105.
The seed of the technique of
destroying the fenomy has
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of the state o the fertile soil of the spirit of "determination to light and to win. "

Platoon leader Pham Thi Thu who looks as frail and young as a girl of 15, com-manded the battle which killed as F., with its z pilots captured. Le Thi Lam, a dimple-faced young girl under 15, lought more than too is, fought more than the battles but, when asked questions, is still shy of answering. I also met Pham Thi Mai immediately after the first battle of her comfirst battle of her com-batant's life was over. She stood, her back leaning net and her face still stream ing with perspiration. She cast her wide, black eyes around her as if to make out what people thought of her job as Gunner no 2. Mai, 17, a bit tall, has just shed secondary education Of the alternative to sit for an entrance examination to a middle-level vocational school or to take up arms against the enemy, she has chosen the last course. The choice was not hard to make "I'm still young and it won't be too late. for me to go on with my study when I can. As to fighting against the Yanks, it cannot and should not be put off a mi-nute" she thinks to herself.

Let's come back to the "Tropical Plant" sound-detector. Who is the first person in this village to have detected it? Old Mau. Hearing an enemy plane flying in at tree-top altitude and then a whistle which sounded like an air-dropped bomb but no exposion was fol-lowed, old Mau thought a great deal about that. The more he thought, the more his suspicion grew. He rose early next morning and made a search in his garden. For

more than 60 years his eyes had got used to the green carpet of his tropical home-land and such a faked plant could in no way escape them. Following his information, the engineering team of the hamlet arrived at the place. There was no need to have a sound knowledge of radio technology before the team succeeded in turning this dangerous device into a useless mass of metal.

A COIL OF OLD ROPE D you notice the coil of rope, rather worm-out, which is prominently displayed on that table covered with white parachute cloth? Village N. has worsted the U.S. aggressors with only this perfectly rudimentary weapon. It is the coil of rope the militiamen use ever night to haul trucks and lories across Bridge T., a section of the key communication line ranking 2nd or 3rd in the province of Quang Binh as a target most fiercely attack-ed by the enemy. On an average, nearly every metre on this section of road which stretches over 3 kilometres had received a bomb. As a rule, at night fall, the village rule, at night fall, the village militia swarmed onto the road, filling bomb craters, and spread a kind of causeway for cars to move through. At day-break, they brought their portable causeway home. They performed this job for nearly 3 years running until the enemy had to give the place up and aimed a tracks at another section.

his attacks at another section. Come and visit various fa-milies in N. and you will see, at any moment, a heap of stones, some logs of timber and several bundle-woods lying in this or that corner of the house. Generally the stones are contributed by old men and women, the timber and faggots by the youth and militia and station staves by school-pupils. These consti-tute the inexhaustible storage depots of the communication and transport service. A bomb is dropped and if the road is damaged, a signal will be given and within moments, these things will flow in.

PADDY RICE AND POTATO

ET's continue our visit.
This bunch of bamboo tapes and this old rifle belonged to war martyr Le Manh Hung, formerly a deputy head of Production Team Nog of the costen in Team have. Noz of the co-op in Tien ham-let. Hung led a shock brigade to gather rice seedlings on to the ricefields near Bridge T. The work was in full swing The work was in full swing when enemy plane streaked in. He urged his fellows to take shelter, while he himself chosq a knoll as his fortification to face the enemy. A bomb landed close to the knoll and took Hung's life.

When peenle resurved the When people removed the earth, they saw Hung still in a position ready to fire, looking up and his finger still on the trigger. The bunch of hambon tages still have a

Potatoes and rice here are often obtained at the cost of blood like that. Sometimes bombs destroy 20 or 30 hectares of land on a ricefield. Deeply aware of the impor-tance of rice for the rear line, co-op farmers of village N. have never left any land fallow nor let the banner of intensive cultivation down.

For 4 straight years no sea water had ever swept over Dyke H., thanks to good miracle indeed. The dyke lies next to a river crossing and rarely a day passed without an enemy bombing or shelling. The irrigation work teams took turns in keeping permanent watch in underground shelters. As soon as the roaring of enemy planes died out, their members immediately resumed work. Formerly the ricefields at the foot of the dyke, covering nearly too hectares, often lay waste because of the damage caused by water. Now, in the midst war, they have become the

The inhabitants of this

bomb-ravaged village have transformed sand beds into tates of manioc and po-tates to make up for the acreage churned up by bombs and shells. The white sand beach is an allowance. bombs and shells. The white sand beach is wholly devoid of organic matters. Sand, only provides a bed for the plants, and to keep the crops alive and help them grown, manupe is badly needed. For every "sao" (1) of potatoes grown on sand one must put in 2 tons of green manure, and for every manioc plant, at least 5 kilos. Here, manure has become the first in-dispensable thing before even water. Without it dispensable thing before even water. Without it there wont be any manior nor potatoes. No wonder some peasants shed their blood while they were preparing compost. The co-plorms a shock team to collect seaweeds for the fer-tilization of the fields. Once tilization of the fields. Once Pluc, a party member, to-gether with the trio Khao, Tiem and Nghia, rowed a boat upstream to pick up the algae. On their way back, the four were inter-cepted by enemy planes. Everybody escaped scot-free but back home, when sea-weeds were unloaded, two unexploded rockets were found among the cargo.

Could you image that under the enemy bombing. so intense as it was, peop not only produced enough food to eat but also surpassed the quotas for de-livery to the State? And this hot spot is where mothers and children receive the best care in the whole province? Yet all that is a fact in N.

OU want to know the deep root of these dramatic change, don't The answer you? The answer can be found right at the Mu-seum: In the central room, under the portrait of Pre-sident Ho Chi Minh, there are two shabby flags: a hammer-and-sickle flag which appeared in the area as far back as 193+1531 and a gold-star red flag which was

first seen fluttering over the roof of the communal house of village N. in the early days of 1945. Farther down is a pick with which the guerilla lighter, Vo Dong, hit a French colonialist soldier on the August 1050. On page of Tran Thi ercise book perforated by el pellets, you can read essay on "Houng Van steel pellets, you can an essay on "Hoang Thu facing the fi

This is the root of everything which means he-

NGUVEN SINH

(1) one "san" equals abo

(2) An outstanding leader of the Induktinese Commu-nest Party who died bravely, executed by the I reach colo-

NEWS IN BRIEF

. In 1068, the number of built and put into operation almost equalled that of estabishments put into commis-lishments put into commis-sion in 1966 and 1967. In Quang Binh, Ha Tinh and Nghe An provinces, close to the 17th parallel where, in 1958, US air and mayal attacks were much more intense, a dozen new cement works opened.In 1968,twonew region-al workshops in Quang Binh province supplied local agri-cultural co-ops with 30,000 cultural co-ops with 30,000 farm implements of different types. The gross output value of engineering in Nam Ha, Thai Binh, Hai Hung, Ha Tay and Ha Bac showed a rise of from 50 to 100 per cent over 1007.

· A conference of intellec-• A conference of intellec-tuals was held in Hanoi recently, under the slogan "Let's be determined to defeat the U.S. aggressors!" Nearly 500 delegates, more than one-fourth of them women, many army and labour heroes and meritorious fighters of the patriotic emillation movement, represented tion movement, represented brain workers of various branches of activity in the capital. Premier Pham Van Dong and Mr. Ngayen Phu Sai, acting head of the South Viet Nam NFL. Permanent Representation in North Viet Nam visited the Conference

value of centrally-run light sed the planned targets by sed the planned targets by
oper cent compared with the
precesting year. Output of
cloth, household attensits and
food products—the 3 key
branches of light industry. increased by frem 15 to per cent. The gross output value of local light industry rose by 8.2 per cent over

Exciting Hours, Somewhere Around Da Nang

NIGHT fell. Time ticked by, too slowly it

by, too slowly it seemed. Enemy artillery roared in the distance,

but nobody seemed to care: the guns would be silenced in due time. Units of the

"longhaired army" turned up one by one, laughing and talking. Detachments were

one by one, laughing and talking. Detachments were formed, and the roll-call was

the assault units must have

already taken up their posi

Army Corps.

morning.

tions, ready to storm the HQ of the puppet First

"That's it!" all exclaimed

Blinding flashes continued to streak the sky, and the

explosions became an unin-

terrupted rumble. On the

ground, big fires flared up.

at once. It was 2.30 in the

A year ago, general offensives and simultaneous uprisings broke out all over South Viet Nam. On the perasion of this anniversary, we publish some "snapshots" of events habbening somewhere in the countryside around Da Nang on the night of January 30 1968 and the following morning. They were taken from a literary review published in the liberated area of Cantral Trung Bo. Ed.

T was late afternoon, An unusual bustle was stir-ring the whole village. Not because it was the eve of Tet, the traditional Lunar Tet, the traditional Lunar New Year's Day. Preparations had been going on for weeks for the festival, but this afternoon nobody had a

Something much more im-portant had been announced for the night the done and the equipment were checked by unit leaders. for the night: the opportu-nity had occurred for the peo-ple to avenge their dead and give vent to their batred of Something strange hap-pened: all formations report-ed a greater attendance than expected. Soon the reason was found: the children had the enemy, for so long pent up.
Everywhere, people got ready
for the forthcoming battle.
First of all, they feverishly
armed themselves with all
kinds of weapons, even the come too, in defiance of orders! In vain did mothers, elder sisters, and even revocider sisters, and even revo-lutionary cadres try to talk them out of it: the kids stuck to their decision. Hadn't the children, they argued, always shows them-selves worthy of their elders? most rudimentary ones, mostly ropes and sticks. All ropes; coir ropes, parachute cords, nylon strings, discarded electrical flex. All kinds of sticks: Hadn't they participated in many previous political acti-ons? Tonight they were ready bamboo spears, wooden stakes, rafters retrieved from burnedto give a hand to their modown houses, iron railings .. And of course cold steel ting down and tying up enemy machetes, sabres, taken put of caches and refurbished, agents... Finally before their insistence, the elder geneand kitchen knives of all

A final check-up by the "high command". Everything was in tip-top shape.
Megaphones, first-aid kits,
atretchers... nothing had been
forgotten. The most careful N an out-of-the-way place. the local committee of the NFL was taking their oath. Not an oath of office, but one for the leadership preparations had been made with a view to maximum of the oncoming battle. The auccesses. The hardest sa-crifices were faced with calm and resolve. Il furniture whose roof had been blown away by American bombs. A NFL flag, golden-Finally the march-off sign al was given. "Forward! Victory shall be ours!" In good order and perfect si-lence, the column moved star on a red-and-blue field. was hung on a dilapidated wall. The people present were of various ages, but all looked percel and united by tight spiritual bonds. The beams of the setting sun brightened the red of the IDNIGHT. Liberation troops had crossed the river and were heading for Da Nang. Some

flag and lit up their serious imperturbable features. Amid deep silence, a young woman took the floor. Her voice, usually gentle and calm, took on a fiery tone. Comrades ", she said, spelling out each word, "tonight In a base area, people were waiting. Suddenly, the sky came aglow above the city itself and thunderous punishment to the aggressors and the traitors. In a few hours' time, a great offensive by our forces will sweep the entire land."

In those solemn moments. felt a lump in his who had fallen on the field of honour, and of those still languishing in enemy jails. They wished they could have wings to fly to battle! cated : " The Bay Mac logistic base is affre!" said one 'Now, it's the turn of the Da Nang airfield," another -- "I ook in the direction of Nuoc Man!" cried others still. "All lights have gone out on Mount Phuoc Tuona! "-!! Listen to those reports from La Nghi and Cam Ha... The demons are paying for their crimes."

DAWN broke. Preceded by a gigantic NFL ban-ner, the "political ar-my" now joined battle, The mothers walked in the van, followed by their daughters... There were many children, and also a few men. On highway 1, it stopped before an enemy post. Megaphones blared forth: "Turn your guns on the aggressors, cross over to the side of the peo--" Come back home! Your loved ones are waiting for you!"—" Don't wait un-til the Liberation troops arrive, it will be too late!"...

More and more people joined the marching column. The unarmed army continued its victorious advance towards Da Nang. Once in a while it would meet a few bewildered GIs. People would crowd around them and someone would step forward to talk to them in halting English. The GIs would listen with gaping mouths and would let the people resume their march without interfering.

It was a glorious morning. Not a plane in the sky. Not a jeep or truck on the road. For the first time in many years, land and sky were ours. It was reported that large numbers of planes had been destroyed at the Da Nang and Nuoc Man airfields, that the Hoi Au provincial town tre had been stormed and the administrative HO of Duv Xuyen district razed to the ground. Besieged and assaulted in their various lairs, the aggressors and puppets were signalling for help and calling each other names over their radios...

This is the Voice of Vist
Nam...
This is Radio Liberafion...

In every village and hamlet, transistor sets received the news, which spread like wildfire. Everyone jumped for joy. Those who had been to Hue or Saigon drew hasty sketch-maps of those cities and proudly pointed to their fellow-villagers the various points under the Liberation troops' fire.

In an underground shelter,

a mimeograph machine was operating at full speed, turning out news bulletins of the Information Department under the NFL provincial committee. Sent out even before the ink had dried on the sheets, they reached the guerillas in their combat renches, the machinegunners of the regional forces in their gun nests, the inhabitants of the remotest corners. even some of the Liberation troops hardly back from their onslaughts on Da Nang!

"Fighters' mothers" busied themselves preparing meals and refreshments which they brought or sent to their adopted sons, the Liberation troops; rice cakes, chicken, duck meat, etc., - the choi-cest delicacies they could find. But the busiest of all find. But the busiest of all were the supply cadres. Not because supplies were short, far from it; they flowed in such quantities that they were at a loss how to handle

"Look - where should we bring all this rice?" a peasant delegation velled at them. "Hey, what about this buffalo, this ox and these pigs? another would ask. don't see to care about our glutinous rice and poultry?" a group of women gently . chid the harassed commissa-

VILLAGE lanes were crowded with people in the highest spirits. Yet there was no slack in vigilauce. The slightest drone vigilance. The slightest drone in the air and everyone disp-peared into the shelters. Indeed, the enemy had begun to react. A chopper howered overhead. Guns' clattered from the ground. The helicopter review and belyke amoke. A young boy, a liaison agent going about his job, stopped, aimed automatic carbine and fired a burst, which put paid to the machine. Soon after it crashed to the ground a swarm of planes arrived, but groundwas so thick and deadly that they hastily turned tail after dropping their bombs

Like a cornered beast, the enemy struggled desperately. But the sword of the war was to deal him such blows that never, never would he recover his legs.

PLAF scouts in Ba Den mountain region (Tay Ninh province)

Editor's Note: We reprint below a report by Carl Strock, who spent a year and a half with the "American Friends" Service Committee" in South Vist Nam, and who witnessed there the Tet generalized of-fensives and simultaneous uprisings. The report first appeared in Liberation, an American paper, in its Sep-tember 1968 issue.

BEFORE I went to Viet
Nam I was persuaded of
the destructive omniootence of the U.S. military, was opposed to American in-tervention in Viet Nam tervention in Viet Nambecause its purpose was to suppress a popular revolution, but there was no doubt in my mind that such suppression was possible. After spending the last year and a half in Viet Nam I feel directly. First, it became apparent that the American military was not really win-ning; then it seemed that a stalemate prevailed, as sec-tions of the press would still have us believe... Since the Tet offensive, the situation has been thrown into sharper focus. Now many believe that the war, from the stand point of the United States, may be in the process of being lost. I would like to argue a case just one step more advanced: The war is already lost; Viet

Nam has won. How is it possible to say, with well over a million 'allied' troops still in the country and with jet bombers still devastating the land and the people, that Viet Nam has won? As in any war, the definition of victory or defeat depends on the objectives of each side. In the case of Viet Nam, in simplest terms, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the National Liberation Front are striving for the expulsion of foreign invaders and for the trans-formation of their own society, whereas Washington hopes to achieve, apparently, a per-manently separate South Viet Nam — a neo-colonial military and economic base, politically invulnerable to the temptations of revolution The Vietnamese, excluding the Saigon—based birelings, require 1) the absence of U.S. require i) the absence of U.S. or 'Republic of Viet Nam' troops and administrators and 2) local organization to meet the people's needs. The United States, meanwhile, must 1) wipe out all enemy

launching of 'search-anddestroy operations from them... It has failed, however, in several ways. First, as regards combatants. rapid withdrawal of U.S. troops has often been correctly compared to the effect of pulling one's fist out of a tub of water-the water simply rushes back into place; so it is with the NLF troops. If the circumstances are unfavourable to them, they withdraw and then return when the

VIET NAM HAS WON THE WAR

effect of the operations, then, is to ravage the coun-tryside without changing

The Americans have been more successful, however, in two other respects. They

more successful, however, in two other respects. They have been able to kill large number of non-combatants, especially in densely popu-lated areas, and they have terrorized many people and forced them into camps

forced them into camps ("generated refugees"). But in terms of U.S. objectives both these successes have backfired. The slaughter of

backfired. The slaughter of civilians has made the sur-vivers more militantly re-sistant to American occupa-tion and has done so right in the rear areas, the

in the rear areas, the densely populated cities. The "refugees" situation has backfired in two ways. First, over the past year, people have fled from the camps in increasing numbers,

political control.

apparently preferring cave dwelling in free-strike zones to American "protection"... Second, those who remain in the camps are under-standably bitter toward standably bitter toward their overseers and thus form a ready-made (ifth column in the American rear

areas... The inability of the United States to control the countryside is reflected in the fact that troops are concentrated in large bases. That fact, in turn, determines

down to hases. Local querril-

has defend the villages and thus permit the regular army

to be a permanently mobile force. Although outnumbered, the Liberation troops are one

the Liberation troop-hundred percent effective; they both control territory they both strength for

and muster strength for major battles. All the above

major battles. All the above has been true ever since the war reached large proportions in 1965. That is to say, the NLF has always had the upper hand, enjoying the support of the people and

exercising effective admini-stration over most of the

present, have simply advanced farther in the same direction. but to such an extent as to introduce a new qualitative element in the war. Just think how the war has changed. A few years ago it used to be sensational news if a "Vietcong terrorist" penetrated Saigon and threw a grenade into a military Today no one worries about individual attackers Liberation troops are station-ed inside Saigon and major battles occur in the city. It used to be cause for concern when an aircraft was downed while prowling above the remote jungle. This year helicopters have been shot down right over Saigon. Last year I could, with some risk, travel over much of South Viet Nam by land; but today that is out of the question, and even Highway 4, running through the Mekong Delta. is the scene of constant aminvaders have left... The two other difficult circumeven greater consequence to American military fortunes, is the tremendous loss of materiel suffered since Tet. stances; about eighty percent of the U.S. forces are noncombat support troops, and second, many of the combat American officials in Saigon privately admitted that at least a thousand aircraft were troops are necessary for the defense of those bases. The lost during the Tet offensive, and many more have been destroyed since then... National Liberation Front, on the other hand, is not tied

those tendencies, already

Regardless of official attitudes toward General Gavin's udes toward General Gavin's
"enclave theory," that
notion is already in effect;
U.S. and Saigon troops have
been largely pulled back to
the big bases and cities,
where they are under continuous attack by the People's Liberation Armed Forces (PLAF). Many do not under-stand why the NLF is fighting in the cities, especially Saigon; the answer is really quite simple: That is all that is left to fight for. The war in the countryside

Since the Tet offensive -(Continued page 7)

From Tet Offensives to Paris Conference

more thus combelled to scrab

protection of important bases and densely populated areas.

Their aggressive will having been blunted - the more so as

their air war against North Viet Nam had also ended up

in painful failure —, they had to seek a political settle-ment which was disigned to

secure them the neo-colonialist positions they had not been able to conquer by the force of

That is what lay behind

President Johnson's March 31,

"limit the bombing" of the DRVN. That is also what lay

behind the dilatory moves by the Americans in their so-called search for peace: one mouth was squandered by them

before giving their agreement to the site of DRVN - USA talk, 6 months to allow those

talks to be examined with the

unconditional cessation of U.S. bombing against North Vist Nam, and 2 and a half months

to recognize the NFL equal

at the oundribartite Conference

events show to what extent the U.S. imperialists could be obs-

The unfolding of all these

porters and 2) occupy ter-

porters and 2) occupy ter-ritory and maintain strict control of the population. Let us now look at what has happened in terms of those objectives.

First, it will be readily seen that the NLF depends

seen that the NLF depends on the support of the people in order to wage the war of resistance. That 'political half' of the war was never really open to dispute—deep-

really open to dispute—desp-seated patriotism set the people against the American occupiers before the latter could even get started... Conversely, the United

Conversely, the United States has had to wage war

against the people to pre-vent them from organizing and supporting their armed representatives. After the

representatives. After the failure of strategic hanlets and special avariare, the U.S. command developed the strategy which it still clings to—the occupation of small enclaves and the

(Continued from page 1)

tightly controlled by them, went up in smoke taking with it the aggressors' hopes for the consolidation of an indigenous government that could serve colonialist designs. Admitted bitterly Henry Kissinger, the on national security malters : "One result of the Tet offen-sive was to delay - perhaps indefinitely-the consolidation governmental authority (See Foreign Affairs, January

Engannhers the beable rose up, organized themselves and built up revolutionary power. It was in this stirring atmosphere that the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces amereed as the symbol of the widening of the national front of struggle against 17.S. aggression.

A new page was turned in South Viet Nam's history: the "limited war" unleashed by the Yankees was defeated at the very moment when their war efforts had practically reached a peak and the total number of troops in the Ameriean Expeditionary Corbs was about to hit a ceiling politi-cally acceptable to the Ameri-can people. The aggressors

tinate. The main factor that were thus competted to scrap their "peripheric" strenge, which also consisted of big-scale counter-offensives, and to shift over to a defensive strategy concentrating on the tinate. The main factor that was responsible for the over-coming of their obstinacy was again the successive stbacks inflicted on them by the Vietnamese people.

> NDEED, from March 31. 1 1968 to Jan. 16, 1965 (date of the U.S.-pupper acceptance of a round table for the Paris negotiations) the struggle of the Vietnamess peo ble continued to achieve errer. In North Viet Nam 11.S. air attacks concentrated on the jour Southern provinces resulted only in the loss of over 400 additional U.S. planes and a not negligible amount of U.S. pilots.

The major battle was fought in South Viet Nam. The offensions and uprisings The offensions and uprisings in May, then in August-September 1968, cost the U.S. puppets nearly 200,000 casualt puppets nearly 200,000 casualties and the destruction of thousands of aircraft, armoured vehicles and a considerable quantity of mar materials. Abrams's new strategy of "clear and hold" severely put to trial, proved to be powerless in face of the stormy assaults launched by the PLAF against big cities and important U.S. bases where a plan for "defence in depth" had been minutely

alpharated Entire enemy hat

talians were without out in the heart of Saigon, the belt of for-tifications around the Nang burst open, and many enemy lairs were pounded by people's artillery by day and by night. Politically, each wave of offen-sives took away—as a Western journalist put it — a bit of the buppets' power. The revolution-ary efferesseens now prevailing in Saigon and other South Vietnamese cities under such Vielnamese cities under such slogane as "End U.S. aggres-sion!" "Down with the fire-eating Thieu-Ky-Huong clique!", "Form a peace cabinet!" is a clear indication of the complete isolation of the aggressors and their henchmen.

And most recently, the first half of fanuary 1969 which witnessed a continuation of the offensives started a year ago, was characterized by powerful and widespread PLAF attacks on all battlefields and on enemy key positions, as well as by numerous guerilla activities which foiled the U.S.-puppet accelerated pacification programme.

WHILE in Paris the aggressors and their valets were forced to accept the NFL presence at the round-table negotiations, they nevertheless persist in ignoring its decisive role in the settlement of South Victnamese problems on the basis of its five points expounded on Nov. 3, 1968. In South Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists are pursuing their illusory plan of "de-Americonfring ' the war, i.e. carry ing on their aggression with a little less (il's (whose repa-triation is forcefully demanded American families) and ch more South Vietnamese. All efforts are being exested by them to butteess the tottering structure of the puppet admi nistration : muzzling of Avert mers arrests summary death sentences passed on young students claiming the

One must therefore expect considerable difficulties to tions, as a result of neo-colonialist ambitions the U.S. ruless cannot bring themselves to give up.

veturn of beace, etc

They only learn from their setbacks. The ones suitained in 11698 already brought the foliason Administration to its senses and to a series of backing-down moves.

May the coming events of 1369 - which will certainly be brought about by the sweeping process of offensives and uprisings staged by South Viet Nam's forces—drive home to the Nixon administration the advisability of the only reasonable course of action to put an end to U.S. aggression against Vist Nam !.

VIET NAM COURIER

To Comrades :

L.I. Brezhnev, Secretary General of the CC of the CPSU.

CC of the CPSU, N.V. Pedgorny, President of the Presi-dium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, A.N. Kosygin, Charman of the USSR Council of Ministers,

O h the occasion of the new marvellous feat the Souret Union has achieved in the successful launching of the terfeat the sowed Union has achieved in the successful launching of the two spaceciast "Soyue-3" and "Soyue-3", I am very happy to convey, on hehalf of the Vietnameze people, the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Government of the Democratic

Republic of Vist Nam, our warmest con-pratulations to you and, threngh you, to the people, Communist Party and Government of the Soviet Union, and all the Soviet scientists engineers and markers who have untributed to this great achievement.

The shiftul link up of the two manned

the saying into up of the suco manners spaceraft and the transfer of one commonant from one craft to the other has marked a new step forward and opened bright and great prospects in the conquest of outer space by the Soviet Union. Wester accept my Communist greetings.

Hanoi, January 19,1969. HO CHI MINH

To the International Conference In Support of the Peoples of Portuguese

O' behalf of the Vietnamese people I uish to convoy to you our warm greetings. Your Conferences a token litant solidarity between the peoples of the Asian and Alvican countries for nation. independence, democracy, peace and social progress and against imperialism, colonial colonialism headed by U.S. imperialism. The struggle of the peoples of Austral-African countries as well as that of the Asian and Latin American peoples in continuously attacking imperi colonianism and are scoring ever greater achievements. The Vietnamere beablear. confident that the Asian and African peoples, closely united in their unflinching struggle, will being their national liberation to fruition

The Vietnamese people fully support that tag Vietnamese people july support in struggle for national liberation of the peo-ples of Angola, the Cougo (Kinshasa), Gui-wa, Cape Verde, Zimbabwe, Morambic, South Africa, Southwest Africa and other South Africa, Southwest Africa and other Isian and African countries. As an expes-sion of their solidarity, the Vietnamese people, in the impetus of their successes, are resolved to win total victory over the U.S. aggressors and to fulfil their glorious historic task toward their own nation and

friendly peoples who are fighting imperialism I sincerely thank you for your sympathy with, and active support to, our people's resistance against U.S. aggression, for

Good success to your Conference.

Hanoi, January 17, 1969 HO CHI MINH

20th Founding Anniversary of Lao People's Liberation Army (January 20, 1969)

Lao PLA: Heroic Army of a Heroic People

STEELED by twenty years of trial, the Lao PLA has now become a well-seasoned army resolved to fight and to win, the voucher for total victory of the Lao people in their struggle against the American aggressors for national salvation. It has given proof of a lofty spirit of revolutionary of-fensive and combativeness and has achieved gallant

In the nine years of the resistance to the French colonalists it fought 3,000 battles, put out of action 17,000 enemy including nearly officers, seized troops. weapons and more than 300 weapons and more than you tons of military equipment. Then, it embarked on a fight against U.S. aggressions which marks a very glorious stage in the history of the Lao people.

So far more than 100,000 troops of the U.S. henchmen have been wiped out and more than 900 U.S. airc aft shot down or destroyed the military successes in 1968 stood out as a brilliant feat with the wiping out of more than 20,000 enemy tropps and the destruction more than 170 aircraft, which represents an important amount of the

enemy's manpower and materials, bringing about a major change in the balance of forces in favour of the patriotic forces and driving the U.S. and its lackeys into passive defence. Early 1909, the patriotic army mounted a surprise attack on the biggest ammunition depot of the U.S. henchmen near Vientiane, and sowed confusion and fear among

The Lao PLA which is composed of three categories of forces (regular army, regional troops and militia and guerillas) is excellent and guerillas) is excellent in combat either against the puppet troops which seek to ercroach upon the liberated area or against the U.S. air pirates who bomb that area. It has been fulfilling satisfactority the noble historic mission which is to thwart the U.S. "special war", and defend the liberated area in order. the liberated areas in order to build up a peaceful, independent, peaceful, neu-tral, democratic, unified and

prosperous Laos. It epitomizes the spirit of unity and grim determination of the Lao people of various nationalities fighting, from north to South of the country, under the baneer of the Lao Patriotic Front headed by Prince Souphanouvong. It is the heroic army of a heroic people.

The rapid growth of the Lag PLA and the big victories of the revolutionary war in Laos can be ascribed to the sound line of the Lao Pa-triotic Front: unite the entire people, build a firm revo lutionary army, develop the people's war, fight and build its forces at the same time, defeat step by step the U.S. imperialists' scheme of aggression and advance towards complete

Liberation Army, the armed forces and people of Viet Nam send their warmest congratulations to the armed forces and people of Laos, their comrades in-arms, who have been fighting perseveringly, va-liantly and skilfully against the enemy. The splendid victories of the Lao armed forces and people are a great encouragement, a staunch support to the struggle of the Vietnamese people, a valuable contri-bution to the victory of the Indo-Chinese peoples

against the common enemy

gural day, some 10,000 Americain youths and other people held a mass rally in front of the Washington Monument near the White House and then paraded along the They carried placards read-They carried placards read-ing: "Nixon's the number one war criminal", "Bil-lionnaires' rule - Nixon's their tool", "Aggression in South East Asia, Shame to USA!" and "The NFL Will Win!" On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's

It was the first time a demonstration of this size had been staged in connection with a presidential mauguration, Reuter remarked.

At the forefront of the marching column stretching group of active duty serviwar of aggression in Viet

Using rocks, mud and sticks as weapons, the de-monstrators valiantly fought

Big Meeting in Paris

N response to the appeal of the French Peace Movement, some 4,000 representatives of the French people of all strata gathered on January 16 at the "Palais de la Mutualité" in Paris to cexpress their support for the Vietnamese people's legitimate struggle against U.S. aggression. The speakers at the meeting warned Nixon that there was only one. honorable way out for the U.S.: to withdraw its troops from South Viet Nam.

Present at the meeting were many leaders of the French Peace Movement and promi-nent peace fighters like Prof. René Noseran, Pastor René Rognon, Pastor Francis Bosc, Lawyer Leo Matarasso, etc ...

Also attending were Georges Marchais, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party, and many leaders of the French mass

Taking the floor at the rally, Jean Schaefer, member of the National Council of the

French Peace Movement, Secretary of the French General Confederation of Labour, who was in the chair Labour, who was in the chair highlighted the atrong sup-port given Viet Nam by the French people and other peoples in the world. He also mattered the mand of those present that Nixon "stop at once U.S. aggression in Viet Nam".

The delegation of the French Peace Movement, back from a recent visit to Viet Nam, strongly denoun-ced the U.S. imperialists' crimes in Viet Nam and warmly praised the Vietnam-ese people's determination to fight and to defeat the

The participants unani-mou-ly passed a resolution addressed to U.S. President Nixon and urging an imme-diate and complete end to the U.S. aggression in Viet Nam, total withdrawal of U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and people's right to de themselves their destiny.

Washington Stages Anti-War Protests on Nixon's Inauguration

O N the occasion of Ni-xon's inauguration as President of the Uni-ted States, large crowds of Americans marched on Washagainst a large police force. On the night of January 19, as Nixon attended an inaugural concert, anti-war protesters held their own ington on January 19 and 20 to demand an end to "counter-inaugural" ball, after marching through Wash-20 to demand an end to the U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam and protest a-gainst the belicose policy of the U.S. ruling circles, ington streets and chanting, "Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh" and other slogans against the in response to a call of the National Mobilization Com-On the same day 5,000 mittee to End the War in Viet Nam (USA), foreign reports said.

demonstrators blighted a reception for incoming Vice-President Spira Agnew held On the eve of the inau-On Jan. 20, as Nixon's inauguration ceremony took place at the White House,

a 10,000-strong demonstration was held just in front of the building, one hour before the inauguration march.

Many demonstrators deli perately hurled stones on Nixon's car which had to career at full speed, without being hit, AP

The authorities in Washington had called in 20,000 troops and policemen to form a security belt around Nixon during his inauguration day. Three belicopters loader

with secret agents performed a lowflying over the new President's bullet-proof car from the Capitol to White House, Nobody white House. Nobody was allowed to stand at the balconies along the streets followed by the inauguration march and only those with



Presidium of the meeting in support of Vist Nam held on Nov. 23, 1968 by 6,000 Parisians

ded a neighbouring one.

cher stood guard, the other

came to their classes in full. Once the enemy threatened

razed to the ground". None theless, not a day did the children in villages D, H, G...

destroyed by the enemy. The villagers, however, saw

to her maintenance and education until she com-

pleted a grade. Still bigger difficulties

have been encountered by the adults attending ABC

classes. In spite of the strain of the armed fight, produc-

tion and many other resis-tance jobs, the adult

emerged. Composed of respected bourgeois intellectuals willing to cooperate with the National Liberation Front to drive out the American invaders, the Alliance repre-sents the radicalizing of the city people and the opening of the last stage of the American occupation. Politi-

ON THE EDUCATION FRONT IN BINH SON

BINH SON district, adjacent to the Chu Lai base of the U.S. aggressors, has since mid-1965 become the front line of the anti-U.S. war of resistance of the Quang Ngai province people. After the historic people. After the historic battle of Van Tuong which inflicted the first setback on their " limited war South Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists landed on Binh Son tons of thousands American troops to be beefed up soon by the Blue Dragon Brigade of the Pak Jung Hi mercenaries. In nearly all villages in the district, the aggressors indulged in free rampage, savage raids and bombings and strafings of the civi-lians and destruction of lians and houses and crops. For their part, the Pak Jung Hi mercenaries committed whole-sale murders, killing at a time 400 old people, women time 400 old people, won and children in a village.

In the first days of enemy In the first days of enemy occupation, 'ngt a few in Binh Son asked themselves how to continue sending their children to solvool and how to free themselves from illieracy. But, with their long tradition of dauntless struegle, the Blinh Son less struggle, the Binh Son people took the decision to "continue education as a means of fighting the Yan-

kee aggressors Then, from the middle of 1966, the mass education movement was quickly restored and made steady headway throughout the

Alphabet classes for adults, pre-school classes for children, and primary and elementary classes of to carry on education in all circumstances. In village C. a dozen families have adopted orphans and continued sending them to school. Little V. was left without support after her mother was arrested and her home determined by the enemy. elementary classes of general education for pupils ere opened throughout to liberated area, in the cordon around enemy ba-

Here, teaching and learn-ing is a bitter daily and hourly struggle against the hourly struggle against the enemy. Teachers and pupils put into effect the slogans "There are classes where-ver there is population" and "We'll learn, even-with one teacher and one pupil". In many cases, classes went on in a hamlet

VIET NAM COURIER

population have teen using every available moment to learn at moon time in the evening, and they learn right in air-raid shelters. Often afternoon after the enemy had withdrawn in the mornthey attend classes in the ing. Right in the hamlets lying along the communica-tion lines of the enemy, the evening after a whole day fighting against enemy raiders. The guerillas ne guerillas leave tion lines of the enemy, the teachers did not miss a single class throughout the year. Though Binh Tri-gillage was virtually attacked every day, no teachers deserted their classes there. While one teanot. do not leave their books even during a counter-raid. Some women cadres carry on their study right in an underground shelter. In many yillages has appeared the slogar with the whole population and the sound of the shelter in the whole population and the sound of the shelter in taught. On their way to school, the children were often threatened by enemy planes or held up by enemy troops. But with their calm and courage, they always outwitted the enemy and chores or look after the children so their wives can attend classes. In their turns, the children encourage turns, the children encourage their parents to go to the classes. Teachers and pupils of the general schools while attending to their duty, enthusiastically take part in "Anyone who go to the revolutionary schools will have their families killed to the last man and their homes

stay avay from their schools.

Many children did not give up schooling aven after their parents were killed and their homes burnt down by of ABC courses.

Particular attention has been given to the protection of the classes, teachers and students. Many villagers have readily offered their homes to be used as class-rooms or allowed class-rooms to be built in theif gardens. their homes burnt down by the enemy. A good many others managed to return to the revolutionary school after being herded, into concentration camps. The population has provided the children with the most effective protection and the Every time enemy troops come they are the first to come out and dissuade them from burning the schools. children with the most effective protection and the best care in their endeavours to carry on education in all

the popular education movement. In one village, all the 42 pupils of a general education class are teachers

from burning the schools.
For three consecutive years, the literacy classes for adults, the infant classes as well as the primary and elementary schools in Binh Son have been running smoothly and more of them have been opened. By the beginning of this scholl-year, the encoluents at the the enrolments at the general achools in Binh Son had increased by more than two and a half times compared with the preceding year. In three years, over 3,000 people were freed from illiteracy and more than 200 others, mostly cadres and guerillas, attended complementary courses. In

particular, three villages and three hamlets have done away with illiteracy and less now many comple

with, the United States was

The battlefield has been transferred from the NLF's rear to the U.S. Saigon rear.

In fact, the American real

The political effects of the

The political effects of the military shift have been equally disastrous for the U.S. position. With the Air Force dropping high explosives into the middle of

Saigon, urban people have found it more and more difficult to be fencesitters...

So it was no surprise when

the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces

possess now many comple-mentary classes.

All the schools in the district have completed their programs, which provide basic knowledge to the students. The teachers have strictly kept to the tive preparation of lessons. They have lessons. They have been continually improving their teaching methods, closely linking education to the reality of the fighting, production and social life duction and social life in their localities, and offering effective assistance to those pupils who lag behind.

Imbued with a deep sense of urgency for national sal-vation which they learnt at the revolutionary school, hundreds of pupils have joined the People's Liberation Armed Forces or the guerillas or become cadres in various branches of the resistance war. In a drive for voluntary military service, all the pupils of an elementary school in Binh Son unanimously appli-ed to join up, and 32 of them qualified. Together with their teachers they formed a pla-toon named "Ba to (1) pla-toon" which afterwards toon" which afterwards recorded many brilliant achievements in the fight against the U.S. aggressors and their

The pupils and school mis-tresses in Binh Son have also been staunch fighters in the political struggle. In the first days of the general offen-sives and widespread uprisings in early 1968, all the pupils and teachers of the primary and elementary schools also took to the

N embattled Binh Son, the schools and classes have become real battlefields while the teachers and stu-dents are valiant fighters against U.S. aggression.

(1) Name of a locality made

VIET NAM HAS WON THE WAR

(Continued from page 5)

one end of the country to the other and finally bottled up in tiny enclayes where now their last hope, bourgeois support, has at last been pulled out from under them Admitted, then, that Viet Nam has won, the questions now are: 1) How has the U.S. defeat been possible and 2) Is there any prospect champing the situation The first question has already been answered except for its theoretical—underpinning— the "concentration-dispersal" resistance against the French. Vo Nguyen Giap, the com-manding general, theorized that the French expeditionary forces were faced with an insoluble contradiction : to occupy territory and thus had no offensive or defensive attack or defend and thus ceded territory. They Either occupy or light, but not both. The Americans, of course, are in just the same bind but, unlike the French, have never made any serious effort to occupy territory, apparently believ-ing their own propaganda that that was the job of the Vietnamese With the Vietnamese With emphasis always more less on concentration, the U.S. forces bave committed themselves to the defense of large bases and cities; that is, the concentration

Secondly, is there any chance that the United States will escape from its military bind, r round eventual victory to do se it would have to to do so it would have to cancel out the concentration-dispersal contradiction by gaining the support of the people, something that the United States is forther from today (after bombing the cities) than ever before the cities) than ever before. No, the support of the people or WHAM (Winning Hearts and Minds) is an item that the Americans seem to have lost all interest in. With their backs to the walls they blaze away with both barrels, but they are running out of ammunition... The United States can still hang on for a long time before finally withdrawing. The war is already settled; Vietnam has won. The only question now remaining is how much more destruction the United States will carry out before

has been passive, and the mobile PLAF have lost no

chance to harasa bogged-down enemy...

TO THE READER

We are aware that there is much room for improve ment in the wording o our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more officiently in future.

FRONT THE LARGE SOUTHERN

OPFRATIONS MILITARY

Enemy Under Attack from All Sides Across South Viet Nam

PLAF - continued attacking the enemy without let-up in the le territory and in tiple forms; stormy whole territory and in multiple forms: stormy assaults against enemy posi-tions and base camps, in-tensive shelling of carefully selected targets, ambushes tensive shelling of circfully selected targets, ambushes on road and river convoys, bold and effective surprise attacks by groups of geeri-attacks by groups of geeri-self-defence groups in the cities even in Saigon. The patriots' actions were particularly intense on the saigon front and in the Mekong Polls. Following are the main ones.

In the province of Tay Ninh, on the night of Jan. 10, in the provincial capital 87km Northwest of Saigon and in soveral other urban centres, attacks followed by popular uprisings cost the enemy 150 men killed or wounded. Next men killed or wounded, Next day, in sinking a patrol boat and damaging another on the Oriental Vam Co-river, the regional forces of the province wiped out about one hundred adverse troops. On Jan. 13, 4 other vessels were sunk on the same river at Ben Dish, yo km North-west of Saigon. west of Saigon.

PLAF in the vicinity of Dat Set (19 km East - South-east of Tay Ninh) against 3 military vehicles destroyed and On the following day, ; mbushes were laid by the LAF in the vicinity of enemy road convoys, 30 military vehicles were destroyed and more than a GP's hundred knocked out.

On Jan. 15, 14 other vehicles were destroyed during an attack on the encampment of a mechanized infantry unit at Bau Co, 18 km Northeast of Tay Ninh.

Ou the same day, near Ben Soi, about 15 km West-Southwest of Tay Ninh, a puppet companies were wiped out, sultering 160 casualties and the loss of a large quantity of arms and materials, 5 aircraft including one jet shock the same of a 3rd company was put out of action.

In the province of Biah Long, about 100 km North of Long, about 100 km North of Saigon, in an ambush on Route No 12 on Jan. 12, the PLAF wrecked 17 tanks and arbaured cars, shot down 3 helicopters, and killed or wounded 120 GPs.

Further Northwest, in the province of Phuoc Long, an attack was reported by Gini Phong Press Agency against a position of the "First Air cavalry" at Bu Nho (8 km South of Phuce Binh provincial capital) on Jan. 10: 2 U.S. companies were wiped

out, 4 helicopters shot, down and 2 heavy mortars destroyed. This was the 2nd disaster of the "Flying Horsemen" in this area where on Jan. 1, 2 other companies (not one as recompanies (not one as recompanies). ported earlier) were put out

erious enemy naterial (including landing craft aunk) Bases of the U.S. 25th Infantry division, 199th Light Infantry brigade and 11st Infantry division, also came under heavy shelling while enemy installations in the 5th district of Saigon and the U.S. Nha Be naval base were playstered. 25th plastered

the Mekong Delte, dashing coup was under-taken against the Lo Te airfield, some kilometres West of Can Tho city where the puppet 4th corps HQ is located (130 km Southwest puppet 4th corps HQ is located (130 km Southwest of Saigon). After 35 minutes of fighting, the PLAF won control of the terrain on Jancontrol of the terrain on jam; and proceeded with the systematic destruction of nenny aircraft with satchel hatnat was credited with textroying tz and another. S. Ten days earlier, this same airfield had already received fire pumped by the patriols who inflicted great damage on it. All told, during these z raids, the enemy lear 55 airon it. All told, during these zanits, the enemy lost 75 air-craft destroyed, mostly helicopters, or three-quarters of the total number of aircraft stationed at the airfield, it armoured cars and an arm depot capable of equipping 3. enemy battalions completely burnt and 200 men, mostly

Closer to Saigon, in the province of My Tho, the cae-my was hard hit in the pro-vincial capital and in almost all important urban centres and military bases between Jan. 10 and Jan. 15, and took 700 casualties, including 330 Gl's, killed or wounded.

On the night of Jan. 18 another wave of attacks flared up again in this province only some 40 km from Saigon.

In the Southernmost pe-ninsula, the large-scale pacifi-cation operation conducted by

6,000 US-puppet troops (13 battalions) from Dec. 22, 1968 Datianons) from Dec. 22, 1968 to Jan. 6, 1969 in 20 villages in the U Minh area ended with heavy losses: 1,000 of the raiders were put out of action (including 200 GI's), 32 vessels sunk or burnt and abdiances developed 7 helicopters downed

In the province of Ben Tre, village guerillas of Gior Trom district inflictled 3: casualties on the adversa including 200 GI's and brought down 4 helicopters in the first to days

Heavy mortaring was re-ported by Western news agen-cies against many enemy positions between Jan. 17 and Jan. 23, sarticularly against the U.S. Bish Duc base, near My Tho, and the military sector HQ's installed in the provincial capitals of Ca Mau, My Tho, Vi Thanh, Hoc Men, Cham Doc and Go Cong.

In the Vestern Highlands in the first half of January, 45 combats, put 780 enemy troops (270 Gl's) out of action, destroyed 36 vehicles including 14 armoured cars, 6 cannons and heavy mortars. grounded to choppers a planes and burnt nearly million litres of fuel.

West of Platku, Highway West of Piekki. Highway No 19 was cut at several points on Jan. 14 and 350 sections of pipelines destroyed. Next day, intercepting the enemy moving in on a repair mis-sion, the patriots destroyed

Western news agencies reported other actions in this area in the 3 day ending Jan. 21: bombardment of the U.S. An Khe base (235 km South - Southeast South Southeast of Da Nang) and a position of the U.S. 173 Airborne Brigade about 150 km Northeast of Saigon, infantry attacks against the camp of U.S. officers in Da Lat (227 km Northeast of Saigon) and the Buon Me Thuet radio station (250 km Northeast of gon), etc...

I N the Da Mang sector, in the district of Dal Loc, 28 km Southwest of the city, a U.S. puppet large city, a U.S. - puppet large scale" "accelerated pacification" operation launched on Dec it last, ended on Jan. 7 bitter failure : 1,000 men put out of action (including mercenaries), one jet and 2 helicopters brought down and 2 pieces of artillery destroyed. In another district about so km South-Southeast of Da Nang, in the first 11 days of this year, the PLAF knocked out 200 adverse soldiers.

On the other hand, Western On the other hand, western news agencies reported: 2 poundings on Jac. 22 of the air base and military port of Da Mang which sustained heavy damage, and a FLAF heavy engagement with marines in the Dai Loc area and the shelling on Jan. 17 of a enemy positions in the province of Binh Dinh at the to th parallel.

A remarkable exploit of the guerillas of Quang, Mgal province (some too km Southeast of Da Nang) vas recently reported by Giai sarly Nov. 1988 and Jan. 6, 1968 they downed 20 and damaged 3 ceemy helicopters and planes. Those of village N.in a days grounded 5 aircraft and a village militia leader

was credited with the downing of 2 helicopters and I jet and damaging 2 other helicopters.

In South Viet Nam's northernmost sector, in the Con Ties and Ten Lem (Rockpile) areas, 150 enemy casualties among them 115 GI's were listed between

NEWS IN BRIEF

Saigon Intellectuals Publish Manifesto

ANY Saigon intellectuals have recently made public a manifesto urging "an immediate cally and a public and a said and a said and a said and a said a manifesto urging "an immediate political solution for peace" in South Viet Nam, Gini Phang Press Agency peace" in South Viet Nam, Gisi Phong Press Agency reported. Its signatories were Tran Ngoc Lleng, a barrister, Ly Chash Trung, Chau Tam Luan and Tran Kim Thach, professors: Nguyen Huu Thien, architect; and Phan Van My, a businessame.

The manifesto, issued at a time when the mass movement for peace was sweeping South Vietnamese towns, underscored that South Viet Nam must adopt a political line "based on independence, democracy and freedom".

Buddhists Stage Peace Prayers

N January 6, numbers of Buddhist female believers held at An Quang pagoda (Saigon) a religious service, in the memory of a nun who had burnt herself to death in protest to the U.S.-puppet dictatorial regime.

The participants in the ceremony passed a petition urging that the Paris peace talks should be held in good faith in order to put an end to the war and restore peace.

Gls Protest en masse U.S. war in South Viet Nam

3,000 Gt's supported by 1,000 Vietnamese workers and hands at Dong Du demand repatriation.

- 2 American divisions at Binh Duc refuse an "accelerated pacification" operation.

ON December 27, 1968, at 1 p.m., 3,000 American soldiers and officers at Dong Dn base near Cu Ch (30km contibuest of Saigon) displayed streamers and posters demanding an end to the U.S. Viet Nam war and repatristin, Gial Phong Press Agency reported. The demonstration lasted the whole afternoon despite counteraction by "security" officers and appeal to all sectors in the base.

As a token of solidarity 1,000 Vietnamese workers and is working at the base downed tools to back the GI's

On December 28, the demonstrators continued to hold meetings all day long. NFL leaflets were passed from hand to hand and even read aloud. The workers' strike went on

Another report of the same agency said that on December Another report of the same agency said (nat on December 20, American servicemen of Battalion 1 and 2, U.S. Infantry Mekong river, refused an "accelerated pacification" operation. The enemy Military police hurled tear gas greenades at the mutineers, which incited 150 GIs to throw down their weapons and uniforms and break their ranks. The following the U.S. command had to move off immediately one of hattalions.